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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Dug-In Tanks as Fortifications

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1. The Bulgarian Army is making frequent use of tanks, dug into the ground, as a kind of small bunker. Those are used at various points in fortification systems, but most use of them is made along the Bulgar-Yugoslav frontier.
2. Naturally, only old tanks are used for this purpose. Most of them are German. They are stripped of their caterpillar tracks and also of their motors and transmission. But they keep their artillery and m.g.s. Mostly they are dug in, so as to leave their turrets (sometimes described as "cupolas" in Bulgaria) free for an all round traverse.
3. As of Nov 1953, there has been no change in the six tanks (all of the same model) dug in near the village of Vraza, not far from Derveno, east of Guishevo [sic - probably Gyuvashovo], on the Sofia-Skopje (Uskub) road, not far from the Yugoslav frontier.

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